

Amendment to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for the manufacture of an electric motor for a hard disk drive comprising a stator (15), a rotor (11), a shaft (35) and a hydrodynamic bearing arrangement (13) which rotatably supports the rotor (11) with respect to the stator (15), wherein the method comprises the steps of:

- a) manufacturing a bearing sleeve (37) of the hydrodynamic bearing arrangement (13) to include ~~is manufactured including~~ a groove pattern on at least one bearing surface (38);
- b) fixing an axial ring (47) ~~is fixed~~ to one end of the shaft (35);
- c) inserting the shaft (35) ~~is inserted~~ together with the axial ring (47) into the bearing sleeve (37);
- d) sealing one end of the bearing sleeve (37) ~~is sealed~~ with a counter disk (41);
- e) inserting bearing fluid ~~is inserted~~ into a bearing gap between the shaft (35) and the bearing sleeve (37);
- f) connecting the shaft (49) ~~is connected~~ to a rotating component (11) of the electric motor ~~mo-tor~~; and
- g) testing the assembly (49) comprising the shaft (35), the bearing arrangement (13) and the rotating component (11) ~~is tested~~ before the assembly ~~it is~~ adhesively bonded to the base plate (21) of the electric motor;
- h) providing a transition fit between the bearing arrangement (13) and the base plate (21); and

i) providing a groove (55) on at least one of the bonded contact surfaces of either the bearing-rotor assembly (49) or the base plate (21).

Claims 2-4. (Cancelled).

5. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, wherein an adhesive with low gas emission properties is used.

6. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1 wherein during manufacture of the bearing sleeve (37), the inner bearing surface (38) of the bearing sleeve (37) is provided with said groove pattern (40).

Claims 7-8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1 wherein a hub (31) of the rotor (11) is fixedly connected to the shaft (35), with a unit consisting of the rotor hub (31), the shaft (35) and the bearing sleeve (37) then being mounted with respect to the stator (15).

10. (Currently Amended) A spindle motor for a hard disk drive comprising a rotor (11), a stator (15), a shaft (35) and a hydrodynamic bearing arrangement (13) that rotatably supports the rotor (11) with respect to the stator (15), the hydrodynamic bearing arrangement having a bearing sleeve (37) on whose inner surface (38) a groove pattern (40) is formed in order to create a hydrodynamic radial bearing, an axial ring (47) being mounted onto the shaft (35) to create a hydrodynamic axial bearing, the shaft (35) being inserted into the bearing sleeve (37), one end of the bearing sleeve (37) being sealed with a counter disk (41), bearing fluid being inserted into the bearing gap between the shaft

(35) and the bearing sleeve (37), and the rotor (11) being connected to the shaft (35), wherein the ~~bearing-rotor assembly (13)~~ bearing-rotor assembly (49) thus produced forms forming a fully functional unit that is ~~can be~~ tested before being adhesively bonded to a ~~the~~ base plate (21) of the spindle motor,

wherein a transition fit is provided between the bearing-rotor assembly (49) and the base plate (21) and wherein a groove (55) is provided on at least one of the bonded contact surfaces of either the bearing-rotor assembly (49) or the base plate (21).

Claims 11-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Original) A hard disk drive having a spindle motor according to claim 10.

17. (Currently Amended) A hydrodynamic ~~bearing-rotor~~ bearing-rotor assembly for an electric spindle motor comprising a stator (15), a rotor (11), a shaft (35) and a ~~the~~ hydrodynamic bearing arrangement (13) which rotatably supports the rotor with respect to the stator, the hydrodynamic bearing arrangement (13) having a bearing sleeve (37), an axial ring (47) being mounted onto one end of the shaft (35) and the shaft (35) being inserted into the bearing sleeve (37); the corresponding end of the bearing sleeve (37) being sealed with a counter disk (41); bearing fluid being inserted into the bearing gap between the shaft (35) and the bearing sleeve (37), wherein the shaft (35) is inserted into the bearing sleeve (37) and the rotor (11) is connected to the shaft (35), wherein the bearing-rotor assembly (49) thus produced forms a fully functional unit that is ~~can be~~ tested before being adhesively bonded to a base plate (21) of the spindle motor,

wherein a transition fit is provided between the bearing-rotor assembly (49) and the base plate (21) and wherein a groove (55) is provided on at least one of the bonded contact surfaces of either the bearing-rotor assembly (49) or the base plate (21).